

Appendix B –Darrington Collaborative - Segelsen Pilot Project, Clear Creek Road Work

The proposed Segelsen Collaborative Vegetation project would also implement aquatic restoration work in the Clear Creek drainage with road improvements of culvert upgrades, ditch clean-up, and improved road surfacing. Clear Creek was selected for drainage restoration due to heavy recreational use* and work needed to meet appropriate road maintenance standards consistent with Aquatic Conservation Objectives. Forest Service road 2060 and 2065 have developed large pot holes, erosion and scour channels. Road ditches have filled in many places, lost capacity and now allow water to flow over the road and erode the surfacing. Culverts need are being appraised for service life and capacity to meet debris flows and aquatic organism passage. This project proposes to restore hydrologic flow patterns across the slope by bringing the targeted road system up to standards, and minimizing potential road system impacts on Clear Creek and tributary streams.

**Clear Creek Road accesses several popular rock climbing areas (Witch Doctor Wall, Exfoliation Dome, Green Giant Butte and practice routes), 3 different hiking destinations (Squire Creek Pass, Deer Creek Pass & Copper Creek trail), fishing access to Clear Creek, general exploring/scenic view driving and hunting/gathering/dispersed camping). It is also popular for winter Nordic skiing & snowshoeing*

The Proposed Project would develop a road restoration plan that would prioritize storm proofing needs from Mile Post (MP) 0.0 of Road 2060 to MP 5.5 mile at the junction with Road 2065, and on Road 2065 from MP 0.0 to the Eight Mile trailhead at MP 0.57. The road restoration plan would prioritize the work that is identified in the inventory of site specific needs along the route. Restoration work would include activities covered as Forest road maintenance under the Forest Programmatic Biological Assessment and Opinion (USDI FWS 2002, revision/extension 2007) and other more extensive work in perennial fish streams under the 2013 Regional Aquatic Restoration Biological Opinion (ARBO II) that covers other road and trail erosion control and stormproofing activities. The proposed drainage work may include installing or upgrading cross-drainage culverts; upgrading culverts; constructing water bars and dips, reshaping road prisms; stabilizing side-cast materials; grading or resurfacing roads that have been improved for aquatic restoration with gravel, bark chips or other permeable materials, etc. (see Page 41 - Regional Aquatic Restoration Biological Opinion, 2013).

USFS staff would review the road restoration work list with the project proponents to develop a plan of action which would meet the project objectives of both providing access and aquatic conservation strategy. The road restoration plan would meet the Memorandum of Understanding between the Forest Service and Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Regarding Hydraulic Project Conducted by the USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region (January 2012). Hydraulic projects subject to the MOU are those projects that involve work that will use, divert, obstruct or change the natural flow, bed, or banks of any perennial or intermittent fresh or salt waters and where the design and implantation are under the direct control of the Forest Service. Proposed actions would be reviewed at the time of implementation for consistency with the MOU and for pre-notification of the Services of the scheduled work under the existing programmatic consultation documents.

See Attachment of Darrington Collaborative Inventory of drainage work needs on the Clear Creek Road (Road 2060) and a segment of Road 2065 to the 8-Mile Trailhead.